1	2
Mizoram	1554
Nagaland	3328
Orissa	78744
Pondicherry	3064
Punjab	59298
Rajasthan	99728
Sikkim	1395
Tamil Nadu	139732
Tripura	7708
Uttar Pradesh	310443
Uttaranchal	22462
West Bengal	188026
All India (Total)	2286203

* Advance *ad-hoc* allocation for Lakshadweep for six months has already been conveyed *vide* this Ministry's letter of even number dated 22.02.2005.

** Allocation for J & K State (other than Ladakh region) is given in two blocks *i.e.* Summer (April-September) @40% of annual allocation and Winter (October-March) @ 60% of annual allocation. This allocation is for other than Ladakh region of J & K State. For Ladakh region State Government of J & K is allowed to uplift the entire year's allocation *i.e.* 3600 MTs of SKO during summer months *i.e.* May to October, when the road remains open.

Shortage of kerosene

1691. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of kerosene oil is due to use of kerosene oil in automobile;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to prevent its commercial use?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Kerosene is sold as subsidized product through the PDS system, outside PDS allocations, there is free sale kerosene. PDS kerosene is allocated by the Government of India to the States/Union Territories.

Government are aware of attempts by unscrupulous elements to divert PDS kerosene for adulterating transportation fuels. Such attempts are largely driven by the price difference between kerosene and transportation fuels.

Punitive action against adulteration is taken by the Government/ Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) under the following provisions:—

(i) In accordance with the Control Orders issued by the Government under the Essential Commodities Act, 1995, to prevent fuel adulteration, State Governments are empowered to take action against those indulging in adulteration. Government have repeatedly urged State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to step up inspections/surprise checks to ensure that adulteration related activities are minimized and to exercise vigil/conduct inspections at various private firms, factories, processing units etc., under their jurisdiction to identify the perpetrators of adulteration and take stringent action against them within the available legal framework.

(ii) OMCs undertake regular and surprise inspections of retail outlets and also take action under Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) and Dealership Agreements against those indulging in adulteration and malpractices. MDG provide for penalty of termination of dealership in cases of adulteration being established.

Besides the measures already in place, Government have approved an innovative pilot project of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for radically revamping the PDS kerosene distribution network with the primary objective of ensuring that this heavily subsidized project is actually made available in the required quantities at subsidized prices to the intended beneficiaries; and, secondly, to thus cap, reverse and

eventually eliminate the diversion of PDS SKO for adulteration. The pilot project is to be implemented in 10% of the blocks of the country for a period of six months. Thereafter, the working of the scheme would be independently assessed and, based on the experience gained, Government will consider scaling up the scheme to cover the entire country. It is hoped this will lead to a significant breakthrough in the delivery of subsidized SKO to the entitled segments of society and thus contribute to the curbing of diversion for adulteration.

Diversion of domestic LPG cylinder for commercial purpose

1692. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice by LPG agencies in Delhi to divert LPG cylinders meant for domestic use for commercial purposes is still being followed;

(b) the number of such cases detected during 2003, 2004 and so far during 2005, alongwith the names of agencies involved;

(c) whether the licence of any agency has been cancelled and any other specific action taken against the defaulters alongwith their particulars; and

(d) whether the names of defaulter gas agencies have been made public, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The names of LPG distributorships of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) operating in Delhi found involved in the diversion of domestic LPG for commercial purposes during 2003, 2004 and 2005 (upto June, 2005) are given in the annexed Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Two LPG distributorships of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), namely, M/s Vee Vee Enterprises and M/s Hitesh Enterprise, have been terminated for their involvement in various malpractices, including diversion of domestic cylinders. Action against other distributors has been taken under the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG). There is no practice of publicising the defaulter LPG distributors.